

What is claimed is:

1. A system for processing incoming data and inserting said incoming data into a database,
5 comprising:
 - an incoming data receiving component, to connect to a source of data and receive incoming data;
 - a parsing component communicating with said incoming data receiving component, to receive and parse said incoming data as a function of a plurality of fields;
 - 10 a loader component, in communication with said parsing component, to receive parsed data from said parsing component, and to sort said parsed data into a plurality of temporary tables as a function of said plurality of fields;
 - a data sorting component, in communication with said plurality of temporary tables and with said database, to access sorted data in said plurality of temporary tables, and to re-sort said
15 sorted data into a plurality of tables in said database.
2. The system of Claim 1 wherein said loader component performs the following steps:
 - processing said parsed data into a proper format for insertion into said database;
 - storing said parsed data in a file;
 - 20 deactivating access to a temporary table in said database;
 - loading said file into said temporary table in said database; and
 - re-activating access to said temporary table.
3. The system of Claim 1 wherein said data sorting component also inserts relational link
25 information in said plurality of tables in said database.
4. The system of Claim 1 wherein said data sorting component, upon accessing a data item in said temporary tables that indicates an error, moves said data item into a corresponding error table.

5. The system of Claim 1 wherein:

said parsing component includes a generic parsing component having common functionality to parse data; and

wherein at least one specific function is implemented into a specific parsing component which encapsulates said generic parsing component, said at least one specific function modifying functionality of said generic parsing component so that said specific parsing component can parse data in a specific format.

6. The system of Claim 5 wherein said at least one specific function overrides corresponding functionality in said generic parsing component.

7. The system of Claim 1 wherein said data sorting component processes data in terms of one of: transaction data, line item data, additional data, enhanced data, trip leg data, and card balance data.

8. The system of Claim 1 wherein said data is transactional data representing transactions completed using a commercial credit card.

9. The system of Claim 8 wherein said data sorting component includes additional information in said data tables regarding tax information for said transactional data.

10. A method for loading data into a database comprising:

receiving data from a source of data;

parsing said data as a function of a plurality of fields to form parsed data;

sorting said parsed data into a plurality of temporary tables, said sorting being a function of said plurality of fields, to form sorted data; and

re-sorting and inserting said sorted data into tables in said database.

11. The method of Claim 10 wherein said step of sorting said parsed data into a plurality of temporary tables includes:

processing said data into a proper format for insertion as formatted data into a database;
storing said formatted data in a file;

5 deactivating access to a temporary table in said database;

loading said formatted data from said file into said temporary table in said database; and
re-activating access to said data table.

12. The method of Claim 10 further including:

10 during said step of inserting said sorted data into tables in said database, inserting
relational link information to other tables in said database.

13. The method of Claim 10 wherein said step of re-sorting and inserting said sorted data into tables in said database includes:

15 if a data item indicates an error, moving said data item into a corresponding error table in
said database.

14. The method of Claim 10 wherein said data is credit card transaction data.

20 15. The method of Claim 10 wherein said step of parsing said data includes:

providing a generic parsing process, said generic parsing process including common
functionality to parse data;

providing a set of specific functions to be implemented in a specific parsing process
which encapsulates said generic parsing process, said set of specific functions modifying said
25 generic parsing process so said generic parsing process includes functionality to parse data
according to said set of specific functions.

16. The method of Claim 15 wherein said set of specific functions override corresponding
functions in said generic parsing process.

17. The method of Claim 10 wherein said step of re-sorting and inserting said sorted data into tables in said database includes processing said sorted data in terms of one of: transaction data, line item data, additional data, enhanced data, trip leg data, and card balance data.